

Thomas T. Taggart papers

S2016

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Title	Thomas T. Taggart papers
Date	1926, undated
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S2016

Preferred Citation

Thomas T. Taggart papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Thomas T. Taggart was born in County Monaghan [Monaghan], Ireland on November 17, 1856 to Thomas and Martha (Kingsbury) Taggart; he was one of five children. They immigrated to Xenia, Ohio in 1861, moved to Garrett, Indiana in 1871 and to Indianapolis, Indiana in 1877. He worked in various railroad restaurants, including the Indianapolis Union Station restaurant. He married Eva D. Bryant on June 16, 1877, with whom he had five children. He was proprietor and part owner of the Dennison Hotel at Pennsylvania and Ohio Streets and was once owner of the Grand Hotel.

He was a member of the board and manager of the French Lick Springs Hotel Company from 1901-1929, chairman from 1924-1929. During that time he enlarged and modernized the hotel including building a spa, convinced Monon Railroad to lay a spur from Chicago, installed electricity, had bottled water from the spring distributed nationally, had a championship golf course designed and built, and gave the Democratic National Committee an unofficial headquarters at the hotel.

His career in politics spanned the years 1886-1924. He was elected auditor of Marion County in 1886 and re-elected in 1890, also serving as city and county Democratic chairman. He served as chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 1892-1924, chairman of the Indiana Democratic State Committee from 1892-94, district chairman of the 7th Congressional District for 12 years. He was elected as mayor of Indianapolis for 3 terms, 1895-1901. During that time he annexed Brightwood, Haughville, Mt. Jackson and West Indianapolis and adopted the city park plan, turning Garfield Park into a showplace. He was a member of the Democratic National Committee from 1900-1916 (chairman 1904-1908), and was appointed U.S. Senator March 20, 1906, filling Benjamin F. Shively's unexpired term. He was defeated in his bid for election to a term. He was chairman of the board of directors for Fletcher American National Bank, a director of the Indianapolis Light, Heat and Power Company, treasurer of the Indiana Lincoln Union and a member of the George Rogers Clark Memorial Commission.

There is a monument to him in Riverside Park in Indianapolis, Indiana, built during or after his terms as mayor.

He died March 6, 1929 and is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Fadely, James P. (1994). Taggart, Thomas. In *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*. (pp. 1316-7). Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press. ISLI 977.201 M341Ien

"French Lick Resort." Retrieved 2014/08/20. <http://www.frenchlick.com/aboutus/history/flsh>

"Taggart, Thomas". Find a Grave Memorial. Retrieved 2014/08/20. <http://www.findagrave.com>

Taggart, Thomas [K].". 1900 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2014/08/20. <http://archives.ancestry.com>

"Taggart, Thomas T.". Hidden Gems: Indiana Landmarks. Retrieved 2014/08/20. <http://www.hiddengemsindiana.org/2013/03/thomas-taggart-memorial.html>

"Taggart, Thomas T.". RetroIndy. Retrieved 2014/08/20. <http://www.indystar.com/story/news/history/retroindy/2014/03/06/thomas-taggart/6117977/>

"Taggart, Thomas T.". Who Was Who in America. (1897-1956). Chicago, IL: Marquis. (V. 1, p.1214). Print. ISLI 920 W628AM

Scope and Contents

This collection includes a typed and signed letter from Thomas T. Taggart in French Lick, Indiana on 1926/12/04 regarding a request for Democratic convention proceedings and a signed photograph from Paul McNutt, a Governor of Indiana, undated.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged by subject.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Democratic National Committee on 1932/03/07, Lucy Taggart on 1956/06, and ACFTWHS on 1962/08/27.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 1997 by Jill Costill. EAD finding aid created 2014/08/20 by Edythe Huffman.

Related Materials

Related Archival Material

Materials relating to this collection may be found in the following collections in Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN:

L541: Thomas T. Taggart collection, 1856-1929

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Democratic Party (Ind.) State Convention.

Geographic Name(s)

- French Lick (Ind.)

Personal Name(s)

- McNutt, Paul V. (Paul Vories), 1891-1955
- Taggart, Thomas, 1856-1929

Subject(s)

- Documents
- Photographs